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Idaho Milk Production Up 13 Percent

Idaho milk production during March 2000 totaled 578 million pounds, up 13 percent from the same month last year and 8 percent above February 2000. Revised production for February 2000 totaled 535 million pounds, down slightly from the preliminary estimate. Average milk production per cow in March 2000 was 1,730 pounds, 70 pounds more than March 1999 and 120 pounds more than February 2000. The average number of milk cows in March was 334,000 head, 25,000 more than in March 1999 and 2,000 more than February 2000.

Nationally, March milk production in the 20 major States totaled 12.7 billion pounds, up 3.8 percent from production in these same States in March 1999. February revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was up 8.2 percent from February 1999. However, adjusting February milk production for the additional day due to the leap year results in an increase of 4.5 percent from February 1999. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,634 pounds for March, 49 pounds above March 1999. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 57,000 head more than March 1999 and 4,000 head more than February 2000.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, March 1999-2000

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2000 As Percent of 1999
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Arizona	132	137	2,135	2,125	282	291	103
California	1,452	1,500	1,795	1,815	2,606	2,723	104
Florida	159	157	1,540	1,560	245	245	100
IDAHO	309	334	1,660	1,730	513	578	113
Illinois	125	120	1,480	1,580	185	190	103
Indiana	136	143	1,380	1,490	188	213	113
Iowa	218	215	1,540	1,610	336	346	103
Kentucky	134	130	1,110	1,195	149	155	104
Michigan	296	291	1,565	1,625	463	473	102
Minnesota	545	540	1,550	1,585	845	856	101
Missouri	161	156	1,310	1,350	211	211	100
New Mexico	231	240	1,770	1,900	409	456	111
New York	700	700	1,480	1,520	1,036	1,064	103
Ohio	260	260	1,450	1,495	377	389	103
Pennsylvania	614	618	1,565	1,620	961	1,001	104
Texas	342	350	1,625	1,640	556	574	103
Vermont	162	160	1,440	1,520	233	243	104
Virginia	122	119	1,335	1,440	163	171	105
Washington	249	246	1,885	1,940	469	477	102
Wisconsin	1,366	1,354	1,465	1,505	2,001	2,038	102
20 STATE TOTAL	7,713	7,770	1,585	1,634	12,228	12,694	104

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Stocks

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers and processors in Idaho on April 1 totaled 50,000,000 cwt., 2,000,000 cwt. less than on hand April 1, 1999. Disappearance, at 83,330,000 cwt., is down from last year's 86,000,000 cwt. and below 1997's 84,314,000 cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest Counties totaled 3,600,000 cwt., above last year's 3,300,000 cwt. The Other Counties' stocks, at 46,400,000 cwt., was 2,300,000 cwt. below the amount stored on April 1, 1999.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the April 1, 2000 Idaho Potato Stocks estimate is 8.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 50.0 million cwt. will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 8.3 percent or 4.2 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence interval) that the difference will not exceed 14.2 percent or approximately 7.1 million cwt.

Fall Potatoes: Production & Stocks 1994-99 Idaho & 15 Fall States

Crop Year	Production	Total Stocks						
		Dec 1	Following Year					
			Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 2/
IDAHO	1,000 Cwt.							
1994	138,801	100,500	89,500	78,000	68,000	55,000	39,500	
1995	132,657	96,000	85,000	73,500	62,500	49,500	36,000	
1996	142,800	102,000	92,000	82,000	70,000	56,000	41,000	
1997	140,314	102,000	91,500	81,000	69,500	56,000	41,500	
1998	138,000	99,500	89,000	77,500	66,000	52,000	37,000	23,000
1999	133,330	96,000	86,000	76,500	65,000	50,000		
15 STATES TOTAL 1/								
1994	410,839	273,290	238,560	202,470	169,570	129,825	87,600	
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870	
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	274,370	238,160	205,780	170,050	127,570		

1/ See table below for listing of 15 states. 2/ Stocks not available prior to 1998.

Production and Total Stocks of Fall Potatoes Held by Growers, Processors and Local Dealers on April 1, 1999 and April 1, 2000^{1/}

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Production	Total Stocks April 1, 1999 2/	April 1 Stocks as % of Production	Production	Total Stocks April 1, 2000 2/	April 1 Stocks as % of Production
<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>			<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>		
California	3,708	1,200	32	4,005	1,400	35
Colorado	25,360	9,300	37	25,762	10,100	39
Idaho	138,000	52,000	38	133,330	50,000	38
Maine	18,060	6,000	33	17,813	7,200	40
Michigan	14,648	2,200	15	14,963	2,700	18
Minnesota	21,170	6,700	32	18,020	4,700	26
Montana	3,180	1,740	55	3,325	1,650	50
Nebraska	8,175			8,904		
New York	7,290	350	5	6,758	350	5
N. Dakota	28,670	10,500	37	26,400	6,200	23
Ohio	1,200			987		
Oregon	26,229	10,500	40	28,020	13,500	48
Pennsylvania	3,360	420	13	3,080	560	18
Washington	93,225	21,500	23	95,200	20,500	22
Wisconsin	30,895	7,800	25	34,000	7,300	21
Other States		1,010			1,410	
15 STATE TOTAL	423,170	131,220	31	420,567	127,570	30

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2000 crops. 1999 crop usage totaled 29.5 million cwt.

2/ Nebraska and Ohio combined into "Other States".

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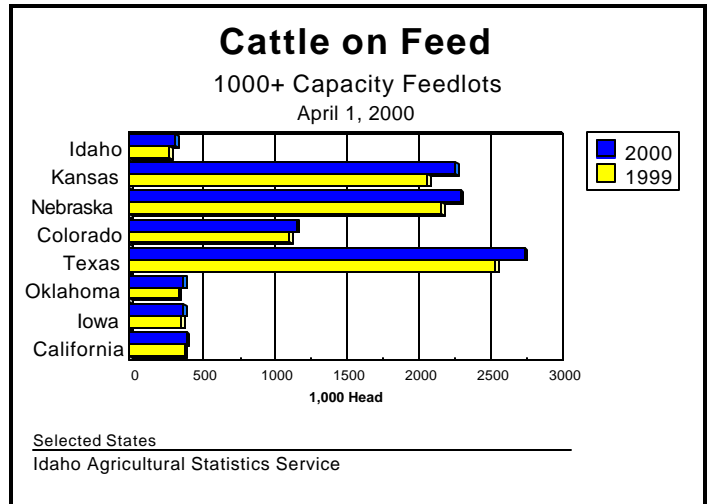
Idaho Cattle on Feed Up 14 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on April 1, 2000 totaled 320,000 head, up 14 percent from the April 1, 1999 inventory of 280,000 head. The inventory was up 5 percent from the number on hand as of March 1, 2000.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during March totaled 69,000 head, up 11,000 head from March 1999 placements. Marketings during March totaled 47,000 head, down 2,000 head from March 1999 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.19 million head on April 1, 2000. The inventory was 8 percent above April 1, 1999 and 11 percent above April 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 2.02 million, 1 percent below 1999 but 18 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.92 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 331,000, 600-699 pounds were 406,000, 700-799 pounds were 715,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 564,000. Marketings of fed

cattle during March totaled 2.05 million, 3 percent above 1999 and 10 percent above 1998. Other disappearance totaled 101,000 during March, 42 percent above 1999 and 7 percent above 1998.



Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots^{1/}

State	April 1, 1999	March 1, 2000	April 1, 2000		
			Number	As % of 1999	As % of March
	---1,000 Head---		---Percent---		
Arizona	214	275	273	128	99
California	385	405	405	105	100
Colorado	1,120	1,180	1,170	104	99
Idaho	280	305	320	114	105
Iowa	360	375	375	104	100
Kansas	2,080	2,320	2,280	110	98
Nebraska	2,180	2,310	2,310	106	100
New Mexico	94	105	93	99	89
Oklahoma	345	400	380	110	95
South Dakota	182	200	200	110	100
Texas	2,560	2,830	2,760	108	98
Washington	179	210	221	123	105
Other States	415	415	405	98	98
United States	10,394	11,330	11,192	108	99

^{1/}Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

Idaho Fruit Production Decreases

Idaho fruit production decreased substantially from 1998. This decrease is the result of severe frost and hail damage. Apple production totaled 70 million pounds, down 55 percent from last year's 155 million pounds. Utilized production is expected to total 70 million pounds in 1999, while in 1998 utilized production totaled 115 million pounds. In 1998, 40 million pounds were either not harvested or were harvested but not sold due to poor prices. Peach production was 8.0 million pounds, down 11 percent from 1998. Prune and Plum production in 1999 was estimated to be 1,800 tons, down 60 percent from last

year's 4,500 tons. Sweet cherry production was 1,900 tons, down 14 percent from last year's 2,200 tons.

Nationally, apple production at 10.7 billion pounds, is down 8 percent from the 1998 crop. Utilized production decreased 2 percent from 1998. Peach production totaled 2.52 billion pounds, up 5 percent from last year. Sweet cherry production increased 6 percent from a year ago, at 224,670 tons. Prune and plum production in Idaho, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington totaled 22,900 tons, a decline of 11 percent from last year's crop.

Idaho Red Meat Production Down 3 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for March 2000 totaled 44.6 million pounds, down 3 percent from last year. March production was unchanged from February's 44.6 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January-March 2000 period totaled 141.2 million pounds, up 7 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 4.04 billion pounds in March 2000, up 1 percent from the previous record high of 4.02 billion pounds produced in March 1999. Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.13 million head, up 3 percent from 1999. The average live weight was down 1 pound

from the previous year, at 1,215 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.81 million head, 3 percent below 1999. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 24 million pounds, was down 17 percent from March 1999 and down 8 percent from the previous record low for March set in 1997 and 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 344 thousand head, 19 percent below last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, up 3 pounds from March a year ago. January-March red meat production was 11.6 billion pounds, 2 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 4 percent higher than last year, pork was 1 percent lower and lamb & mutton was down 6 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States ^{1/}

State	March 1999	February 2000	March 2000	March 2000 As Percent Of ^{2/}	
				March 1999	February 2000
	Million Pounds			Percent	
California	93.9	83.6	94.8	101	113
Colorado	181.5	190.5	188.8	104	99
IDAHO	45.9	44.6	44.6	97	100
Illinois	228.9	207.1	232.6	102	112
Iowa	573.6	497.8	549.7	96	110
Kansas	514.0	520.5	550.7	107	106
Minnesota	184.7	170.9	185.7	101	109
Montana	1.8	1.4	1.4	79	99
Nebraska	586.3	571.9	605.5	103	106
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	107	111
Oklahoma	77.9	78.3	87.8	113	112
Oregon	3.7	3.5	3.9	104	111
South Dakota	93.4	78.2	84.9	91	109
Texas	418.3	390.1	414.3	99	106
Utah	43.4	37.1	41.2	95	111
Washington	54.2	54.1	54.0	100	100
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	95	100
UNITED STATES	4,017.1	3,767.3	4,043.9	101	107

^{1/} Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. ^{2/} Percentages based on unrounded data.